STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION OF GAMING ENFORCEMENT

ACTION OF THE DIVISION OF GAMING ENFORCEMENT TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND CASINO and RETAIL SPORTS WAGERING OPERATIONS PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 5:12-96

ORDER REINSTATING
CERTIFICATES OF
OPERATION OF
CERTAIN CASINOS
and RETAIL SPORTS
WAGERING
OPERATIONS

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of New Jersey, Philip D. Murphy, having issued Executive Order No. 103 (2020) on March 9, 2020, the facts and circumstances of which are adopted by reference herein, and which declared a State of Emergency and a Public Health Emergency due to dangers posed by COVID-19 and, through Executive Order No. 104 (2020) issued on March 16, 2020, the facts and circumstances of which are adopted by reference herein, which ordered closed to the public casino gaming floors, including retail sports wagering lounges, and casino concert and entertainment venues; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Division of Gaming Enforcement (Division) on its own motion, having initiated proceedings pursuant to the Casino Control Act, *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-I et seq. and *N.J.S.A.* 5:12A-1 et seq. and more specifically Section 96 of that law, *N.J.S.A.* 5:12-96, to temporarily suspend the operations of the nine casino licensees which closed all casino gaming floors, casino concert and entertainment venues in Atlantic City and the two racetrack sports wagering lounges to the public (Order Temporarily Suspending Casino and Retail Sports Wagering Operations); and

WHEREAS, through Executive Order No. 157 (2020), the Governor has authorized the reopening of casinos and retail sports lounges subject to the provisions of that Order; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Paragraph 11 of Executive Order No. 157 (2020) and through a subsequent Order of the Division, the Division adopted the protocols created by the Casino Association of New Jersey (CANJ) as the baseline and minimum standards that each Atlantic City casino is required to meet or exceed in order to reopen its premises to the public; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Division's Order, individual casinos that desire to reopen must submit their reopening protocols to the Division and incorporate the standards outlined in Executive Orders Nos. 157 and 158 (2020) and meet those included in the CANJ protocols, and certify that their protocols meet or exceed these requirements; and

WHEREAS, as a precondition of reopening, each casino must publish its approved reopening protocols; and

WHEREAS, although the Division regulates the operation of the sports wagering lounges at Monmouth Park and the Meadowlands Racetrack, the Division does not oversee the reopening standards of the facilities within those race tracks, which can be found in New Jersey

Office of Emergency Management Administrative Order No. 2020-14; and

WHEREAS, the Division has received reopening protocols from the following casinos: Ballys, Caesars, Golden Nugget, Hard Rock, Harrahs, Ocean, Resorts, and Tropicana; and

WHEREAS, the Division having reviewed and assessed the status and condition of the protocols from the casinos referenced above, which includes equipment, surveillance, security, gaming related computer systems and all related facilities, and the casinos having certified that the protocols meet or exceed the requirements contained in Executive Order Nos. 157 and 158 (2020) and the CANJ protocols in accordance with the Division's Order; and

WHEREAS, Monmouth Park Sports Wagering Lounge and Meadowlands Sports Wagering Lounge have submitted their reopening plans to the Division related to equipment, surveillance, security, gaming related computer systems and all related facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Division finds that the protocols and plans submitted from the casinos and sports wagering lounges referenced above meet or exceed the standards imposed by the Division for reopening;

IT IS on this 1st day of JULY, 2020, **ORDERED** that the Division's March 16, 2020 Order Temporarily Suspending Casino and Retail Sports Wagering Operations is vacated as related to the above referenced casinos and sports wagering lounges; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the above referenced casinos and sports wagering lounges are authorized to be open to the public as of 6:00 a.m. on July 2, 2020, provided, subject to N.J.S.A. 5:12-75, that they comply, and remain in compliance, with Executive Order Nos. 157 and 158 (2020), as well as any subsequent Orders issued by the Governor, the State Director of the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management, or the Division and the aforementioned re-opening protocols; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the above referenced casino and sports wagering lounges are permitted to resume casino gaming, wagering, and sports wagering activities within each casino or racetrack property in accordance with the protocols submitted by those entities.

By:

David L. Rebuck

Director

July 1, 2020